

Dr. Edward A. Schumann of Philadelphia, author of outstanding contributions to gynecology and obstetrics, has written a sparkling introduction for the second edition. The Blakiston Company has seen to it that the printing (The Maple Press Company of York, Pa.), the paper and the binding are of the highest quality, yet the cost has been held down to \$8.50, a bargain in view of the high cost of printing and binding. Your reviewer considers the second edition of Ricci's "Genealogy of Gynaecology" an outstanding contribution to the history of medicine and a valuable reference book.

* * *

CLINICAL ELECTROCARDIOGRAPHY. By Francis F. Rosenbaum, M.D., Assistant Clinical Professor of Medicine, Marquette University School of Medicine. Edited by Henry A. Christian, A.M., M.D., LL.D., Sc.D., Hersey Professor of the Theory and Practice of Physic, Emeritus, Harvard University. Oxford University Press, New York, 1950. \$4.50.

This concise monograph on the electrocardiogram is among the best of recent texts on this subject. The author, well qualified to speak for the Wilson school of electrocardiographic interpretation, does so in lucid, well organized sections.

The electrocardiographic reproductions are excellent and are conveniently arranged with the text and with pertinent facts of illustrative case histories. The emphasis placed upon the limitations of the electrocardiogram and its proper use in clinical medicine gives the book unique value as an introduction for the beginner, and as a reminder to the over-enthusiastic electrocardiographic interpreter.

One minor annoyance in the book is the retention of the same page numbers as in the original Oxford Loose Leaf Medicine from which this monograph was reprinted. Otherwise the make-up of the book, its index and bibliographic arrangement are entirely adequate.

This book deserves a place in the library of every physician interested in cardiovascular disease, and can be read with profit by all who are interested in the clinical application of the electrocardiogram.

* * *

DISEASES OF THE HEART. By Charles K. Friedberg, M.D., Associate Physician, Mount Sinai Hospital, New York. W. B. Saunders Company, Philadelphia, 1949. \$11.50.

The author presents this book as an effort "to provide a comprehensive and integrated exposition of the diseases of the heart." In the reviewer's opinion the book fulfills this purpose and is the best of the more recent books on cardiac disease. Its method of presentation presupposes some fundamental information on the part of the reader in cardiovascular physiology and electrocardiography, so that it should prove more helpful as a reference text for the advanced student than as an introduction for the beginner in the study of heart disease.

The organization of the material presented is excellent and the various sections are conveniently divided into chapters which make for ease in reading and reference. The subject matter is more complete and current than any other available text in this field, and opposing views of controversial questions are adequately summarized.

The section on circulatory failure is an outstanding one and should be read by every internist who has been unable to keep abreast of the voluminous literature related to this problem in recent years.

Unfortunately, titles are not included with the references. Because of that space-saving device the greatest value of a remarkably complete bibliography cannot be attained. Revision of the bibliography in succeeding editions with this in view would add greatly to the book as a reference work.

TEXTBOOK OF ENDOCRINOLOGY. Edited by Robert H. Williams, M.D., Executive Officer and Professor of Medicine, University of Washington Medical School, Seattle. W. B. Saunders Company, Philadelphia, 1950. \$10.00.

During the past three decades many of the hormones have been made available in pure form and much has been learned of the manner in which they influence propagation, growth, maturation and general metabolic activities. With the accumulation of such knowledge there has been acquired a much better understanding of the clinical endocrinopathies. This book discusses the management of these conditions based on the application of fundamental information. It fills a long-felt need for an authoritative text on clinical endocrinology.

The editor himself has written chapters on the general principles of endocrinology, the laboratory procedures involved, the pituitary gland and the thyroid gland. He has had the collaboration of experienced investigators and teachers in the remaining chapters. The headings of the chapters and their authors include: Chronic Adrenal Hyperfunction (Edwin J. Kepler and William Locke), Adrenal Cortical Insufficiency and the Pancreas and Diabetes Mellitus (George W. Thorn and Peter H. Forsham), The Testes (John Eager Howard and William Wallace Scott), the Ovaries (George Van S. Smith), Diseases of the Parathyroid Glands (Edward C. Reifenshtein, Jr.), Influence of Endocrine Glands Upon Growth and Development (Lawson Wilkins), Neuroendocrine and Psychodynamic Aspects of the Endocrinopathies (Harry B. Friedgood) and Obesity (L. H. Newburgh).

The subjects are discussed with clarity and brevity enough for the book to be used as a text in medical schools. There is also sufficient detail for it to serve as a reference for the student or physician. The photographs are good, except for some of those reproduced from the older medical literature. The volume is a welcome addition to the literature of internal medicine.

* * *

DISEASES OF THE FOOT. By Emil D. W. Hauser, M.S., M.D., Associate Professor of Bone and Joint Surgery, Northwestern University Medical School. Second Edition. W. B. Saunders Company, Philadelphia, 1950. \$7.00.

This second edition of "Diseases of the Foot" covers the anatomy, the physiology, the diagnosis and the treatment of the many abnormal conditions found, rarely as well as frequently, in the feet. Many excellently reproduced roentgenograms, photographs and line drawings are valuable in illustrating the details of pathologic conditions of the foot. For instance, the accessory bones of the foot are covered in a way that will aid the specialist, as well as the general practitioner, in differentiating normal findings that are often mistaken for abnormal, and vice versa.

The orthopedic specialist will find the book valuable, because it represents the considered views of a careful man who has spent the major part of a professional life in the study of feet, of gait and of posture. The author probably expects the specialist to disagree with certain of his ideas about indications for therapy and the way the therapy is carried out. At the same time, the specialist will benefit by reviewing his own reasons for his favored forms of therapy and his reasons for differing with the author. Many in this country follow Hiram Kite of Atlanta in the therapy of club feet and it is probable that the novice can more easily follow Kite than Hauser. An inexperienced man would probably run into difficulty in trying to follow Hauser in the correction of a deformed foot by using the Thomas wrench. In Hauser's hands it is probably useful.

The diagnostician and the general practitioner will find the book valuable for reference but the general man will likely have difficulty in following certain of the detailed instructions.